

November, 2013

To Friends of West Lafayette Trees:

Fall is a good time to appreciate all the trees lining the streets of West Lafayette. Members of the WL Tree Friends have been hard at work to keep the trees healthy, well-pruned and a contributor to our air quality and reduction of stormwater run-off, but the task has been a hard one. The impact of two very dry growing seasons along with the emerald ash borer has threatened many of the trees. We have approximately 850 ash trees in our street tree inventory and most of them will be gone within the next 5 years. We have good news regarding the replanting of several streets in New Chauncey, interplanting among ash trees in Northwestern Heights, and more new trees along Lindberg.

The donations we received during 2012 went to purchase trees, pruning tools and watering equipment. We used hundreds of volunteer hours to inventory trees, prune them regularly, irrigate and mulch new trees, and provide information to citizens at Farmers Market and other events about the emerald ash borer. A look at spending categories shows us that 99% was spent on trees and equipment while less than 1% went to administrative costs. Our funds came from grants, city matching funds and generous residents such as you. As the ash trees die, we are estimating that each replacement tree will cost about \$250, totaling over \$200,000 to keep our tree inventory at a healthy level. Your donations will be needed more than ever.

Our annual Founder's Day tree planting will be on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at the West Lafayette Public Library at 11:00 AM. The ceremony will honor Helen Lillich, the founder of Tree Friends. We invite you to attend and meet our volunteers.

We have included a brochure detailing our activities during the past year and would be very glad to answer any questions you have about street trees. Please help us keep West Lafayette's urban forest growing and green. We appreciate the support that you give to the West Lafayette Tree Friends.

Sincerely,

Lynn Layden. Chair WL Tree Friends

Method of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard

Make check payable to West Lafayette Tree Friends

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send gifts to WL Tree Friends, 1101 Kalberer Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906

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